

Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Report

Date of issue: 13 Oct 2023

Events reported in 2023

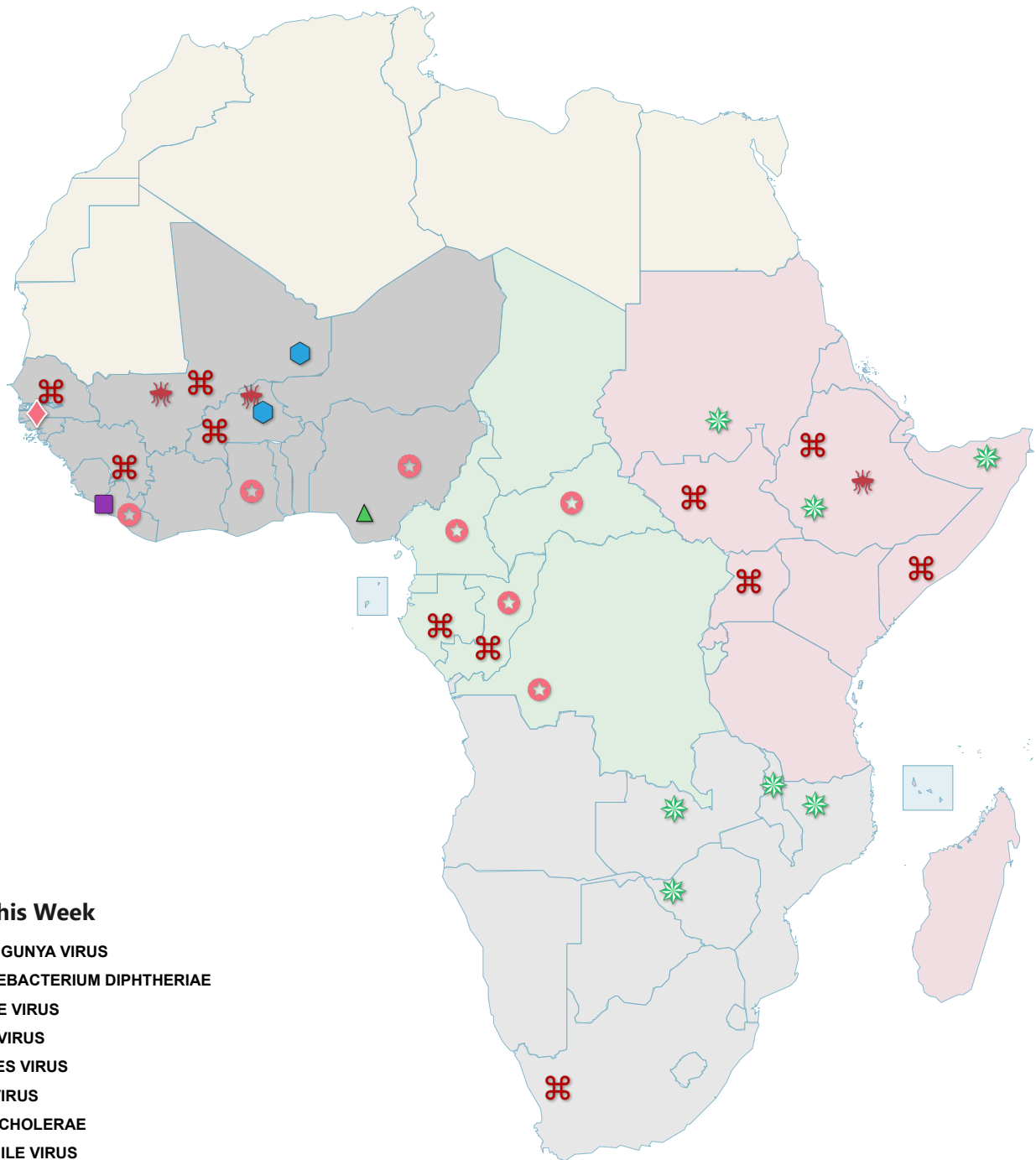
145


Events highlighted this week

26

New events since last issue

1



*  represent AU Member States that are islands

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the African Union.

Moderate Risk Events

West Nile fever in Senegal

1 confirmed case(s)

0 human deaths (**CFR: 0%**)

Agent/Pathogen	West Nile virus	First Occurred	1-Sep-2023	Country	Senegal
Location	Yembeul district	Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW
Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE				

Description:

On 19 September 2023, the Ministry of Health (MoH), Senegal reported a confirmed case of West Nile fever (WNF) in Yembeul city. The case is a 73-year-old female presented at Yembeul hospital with fever, headache, joint pains and no travel history to any country in the past 14 days. The case was confirmed by enzyme linked immunosorbent assay at Institut Pasteur in Dakar on 11 September 2023. She fully recovered and was discharged on 3 October 2023.

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne virus belonging to the genus Flavivirus, related to the Japanese encephalitis antigenic complex of Flaviviridae family. It is transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes. About 80% of cases present with mild or no symptoms and about 20% of cases develop a fever, headache, vomiting, or a rash while 1% progress to severe forms of the disease with symptoms such as neck stiffness, confusion, or seizures. The last outbreak of WNF in Senegal occurred in 2021 where 21 cases and no deaths were reported.

High Risk Events

Corynebacterium diphtheria in Africa

9,876 confirmed case(s)
561 human deaths (**CFR: 5.7%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Corynebacterium diphtheriae	First Reported	4-Aug-2023	Previous Report Update	29-Sep-2023
First Occurred	18-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	4 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	MODERATE	Human Risk Assessment	HIGH

Update to Event:

Since January 2023, a total of 15,844 cases (9,876 confirmed; 5,968 suspected) and 561 deaths (CFR: 3.5%) of diphtheria have been reported in four African Union Member States (MS): Algeria (80 cases, 10 deaths), Guinea (417; 60), Niger (865; 37) and Nigeria (14,482; 545).

This week, 792 new cases and one new death from diphtheria (CFR: 0.1%) were reported from Nigeria .

Nigeria: Since the last update (3 October 2023), the Nigeria CDC (NCDC) reported 792 new cases (352 new confirmed; 440 suspected cases) and one new death (CFR: 0.1%) of diphtheria. Cumulatively, 14,482 cases (9,486 confirmed; 4,996 suspected) and 545 deaths (CFR: 3.7%) have been reported from 31 of 36 states of Nigeria. Of the cases reported, 21% were children between 1 - 14 years, 24% of whom were fully vaccinated.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Guinea: The Ministry of Health (MoH) has vaccinated 9,510 persons with diphtheria antitoxin in response to the outbreak. Additionally, it continues to strengthen case management, laboratory and risk communication in the region.

Nigeria: The NCDC has deployed Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) to affected states to support the EOCs with active case search, contact tracing, coordination of activities and data management.

Moderate Risk Events

COVID-19 in Africa

12,320,649 confirmed case(s)
257,167 human deaths (**CFR: 2.1%**)

Agent/Pathogen	SARS-CoV-2	First Reported	21-Feb-2020	Previous Report Update	29-Sep-2023
First Occurred	14-Feb-2020	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	All 55 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	VERY HIGH	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

As of 6 p.m. East African Time (EAT) 13 October 2023, a total of 12,320,649 COVID-19 cases and 257,167 deaths (CFR: 2.1%) have been reported by the 55 African Union Member States (MS). This represents 2% of all cases and 4% of all deaths reported globally. Fifty-three MS have reported COVID-19 cases infected with the Alpha (50 MS), Beta (45), Delta (53), Gamma (5) and Omicron (51) variants of concern (VOC). Additionally, 32 MS have reported the presence of the Omicron BA.2 sub-variant, 17 Member States reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.5), 12 MS reported the Omicron sub lineage (BF.7 or BA.5.2.1.7), and 2 Member States have reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.16). Another sub-variant of Omicron (B.1.1.529) called EG.5 has been detected and reported in Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania. As of 13 October 2023, nine Member States: Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Egypt, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, South Africa, Tunisia and Uganda have reported the presence of this new variant of interest (VOI). Following an initial risk assessment conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO), the public health risk associated with EG.5 is currently rated as low on a global level, similar to the risk of XBB.1.16 and other VOIs. Fifty-four (98%) MS are currently providing COVID-19 vaccination to the general population. Cumulatively, 1.1 billion doses have been administered on the continent. Of these doses administered, 548.7 million people have been partially vaccinated, and 439.9 million (51.8%) have been fully vaccinated. Eritrea is the only AU MS yet to start COVID-19 vaccination roll out.

For Epi week 40 (2 - 8 October), 591 new COVID-19 cases were reported, which is a 31% increase in the number of new cases reported compared to the previous week (39). The Northern region accounted for 63% of the new COVID-19 cases reported this week, followed by the Southern (25%), Eastern (7%), Western (3%) and Central (2%). Last week, no new COVID-19 deaths were reported in Africa. More than 9,839 new tests were conducted during the past week. Since February 2020, over 133 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted in Africa.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The emergency operations center (EOC) of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) has been activated for COVID-19 since 27 January 2020. For more information on Africa CDC's response efforts please refer to Africa CDC's website.

Mpox in Africa

6,929 confirmed case(s)

84 suspected case(s)

388 human deaths (**CFR: 5.5%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Mpox virus	First Reported	17-Jan-2023	Previous Report Update	22-Sep-2023
First Occurred	1-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	7 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE
Animal Risk Assessment	MODERATE				

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 7,013 cases (6,929 confirmed, 84 suspected) and 388 deaths (case fatality rate (CFR: 5.5%) of mpox have been reported from seven endemic AU MS: Cameroon (23 confirmed cases; 0 death), Central African Republic (CAR) (66; 2), Congo (18; 2), DRC (6,724; 384), Ghana (11; 0), Liberia (8; 0) and Nigeria (79; 2).

This week, 116 new cases and three new death from mpox were reported from 2 AU MS: CAR and Congo

CAR: Since the last update (27 September 2023), the MoH in CAR reported 53 new confirmed cases and one new death from mpox. Cumulatively 67 confirmed cases and two deaths (CFR: 2.9%) of mpox have been reported from nine of 35 districts in CAR.

Congo: Since the last report (19 September 2023), the Congo MoH reported one death and four news cases of mpox from Enyelle-Betou (3) and Impfondo (1) health districts. Cumulatively, 57 cases (18 confirmed and 39 suspected) and two deaths (CFR:(9.1%) have been reported in five health districts of Congo.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH in CAR and Congo have deployed rapid response teams to enhance surveillance, case management and risk communication activities in the affected districts.

Cholera in Africa

85,763 confirmed case(s)
108,463 suspected case(s)
3,038 human deaths (**CFR: 1.6%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Vibrio cholerae	First Reported	6-Jan-2023	Previous Report Update	6-Oct-2023
First Occurred	1-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	18 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	MODERATE	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 194,216 cases (85,753 confirmed; 108,463 suspected) and 3,038 deaths (CFR: 1.6%) of cholera were reported from 18 AU MS: Burundi (1,038 cases; 9 deaths), Cameroon (20,672; 487), Congo (93; 9), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (36,084; 303), Eswatini (2; 0), Ethiopia (24,337; 326), Kenya (8,811; 145), Malawi (42,933; 1,260), Mozambique (34,813; 144), Nigeria (2,860; 84), Somalia (13,883; 37), South Africa (1,074; 47), Sudan (265; 18), South Sudan (1,471; 2), Tanzania (87; 3), Uganda (78; 10), Zambia (933; 19) and Zimbabwe (4,782; 131).

This week, 812 new cases and 35 new deaths of cholera were reported from seven AU MS: Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Ethiopia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the Ethiopia Public Health Institute (EPHI) reported 137 new suspected cases and 27 new deaths (CFR: 20%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 24,337 cases (26 confirmed; 24,311 suspected) and 326 deaths (CFR: 1.3%) have been reported. The outbreak is active in eight of the 11 regions in Ethiopia. Oromia and the South Ethiopia regions account for 66% of the cases.

Malawi: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported six new confirmed cases and no deaths of cholera from two districts: Nsanje (3 cases) and Lilongwe (3). Cumulatively, 42,933 confirmed cases and 1,260 deaths (CFR: 3%) have been reported from all 29 districts in Malawi.

Mozambique: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 96 new confirmed cases and no deaths of cholera. Cumulatively, 34,813 confirmed cases and 144 deaths (CFR: 0.4%) have been reported from 10 of 11 provinces.

Somalia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 231 new cases (7 confirmed; 224 suspected) and two new deaths of cholera (CFR:0.9%). Cumulatively, 13,883 cases (210 confirmed; 13,673 suspected) and 37 deaths (CFR: 0.3%) have been reported from 29 of 74 districts in the country. Children under five years make up 54% of the cases. This outbreak has been uninterrupted in the drought-affected districts since 2022 and in the Banadir region since 2017.

Zambia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPPI) reported three new suspected cases and no new deaths of cholera. Cumulatively, 933 cases (359 confirmed; 574 suspected) and 19 deaths (CFR: 2%) have been reported this year. The outbreak is active in Nsama district.

Zimbabwe: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 339 new cases (24 confirmed; 315 suspected) and six new deaths (CFR: 0.9%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 4,908 cases (958 confirmed; 3,950 suspected) and 135 deaths (CFR: 2.8%) have been reported from 41 of 59 districts.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Africa CDC rapid response team continues to support the Republic of Malawi to enhance surveillance, risk communication, and infection prevention and control in districts where the outbreak is currently ongoing.

Measles in Africa

20,477 confirmed case(s)

257,516 suspected case(s)

3,637 human deaths (**CFR: 1.3%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Measles virus	First Reported	6-Jan-2023	Previous Report Update	6-Oct-2023
First Occurred	1-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	27 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	HIGH	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 277,993 (20477 confirmed; 257,516 suspected) and 3,637 deaths (CFR: 1.3 %) of measles were reported from 27 AU MS: Angola (6,203 cases; 53 deaths), Botswana (13; 0), Burkina Faso (1,671; 2), Burundi (319; 0), Cameroon (8,503; 64), Central African Republic (CAR) (2,873; 0), Chad (8,915; 7), Congo (670; 4), DRC (190,598; 3,187), Ethiopia (17,252, 131), Gabon (3,059; 0), Gambia (208; 0), Ghana (212; 0), Guinea (1,011; 2), Kenya (1,288; 23), Libya (391; 2), Liberia (7,883; 8), Mali (1,575; 2), Mauritania (755; 5), Mozambique (1,342; 0), Niger (1,690; 0), Senegal (4,475; 0), Somalia (9,596; 0), South Africa (843; 0), South Sudan (6,030; 145), Uganda (290; 1) and Zambia (328;1).

This week, a total of 1,638 new cases and nine new deaths (CFR: 0.5%) were reported from seven MS: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan and Uganda.

Burkina Faso: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 23 new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 1,671 cases (324 confirmed; 1,347 suspected) and two deaths (CFR: 0.1%) of measles have been reported from 31 of all 70 health districts in Burkina Faso.

Congo: Since the last report (27 September 2023), the MoH reported seven suspected cases of measles and no new deaths from four health districts of Etoumbi (4), Mouyondzi (1), Sibiti (1) and Zanaga (1). Cumulatively, 670 cases (138 confirmed; 532 suspected) and four deaths (CFR :0.6%) of measles have been reported from six of 26 provinces in Congo.

Ethiopia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the EPHI reported 539 new suspected cases and four new deaths (CFR: 0.7%) of measles. Cumulatively, 17,252 suspected cases and 131 deaths (CFR: 0.8%) have been reported from Ethiopia. The outbreak is active in eight of the 11 regions of the country, four of which account for 80% of the cases; Amhara, Oromia, Somali and Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's region.

Gabon: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported seven new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles from two regions: Libreville-Owendo (4 cases) and Sud-Est (2). Cumulatively, 3,059 cases (1,607 confirmed; 1,452 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from 10 of 26 districts.

Guinea: Since the last update (29 September 2023), the MoH reported seven suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 1,011 cases (5 confirmed; 1,006 suspected), and 2 deaths (CFR: 0.2%) have been reported from all the eight regions in Guinea.

Mali: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported three new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 1,575 cases (357 confirmed; 1,218 suspected) and 2 deaths (CFR: 0.1%) of measles have been reported from five of the nine regions in Mali.

Senegal: Since the last update (29 September 2023), the MoH reported 24 new cases (6 confirmed; 18 suspected) and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 4,475 cases (1,358 confirmed; 3,117 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from 44 of 50 districts in Senegal.

Somalia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 233 new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 9,596 cases (84 confirmed; 9,512 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from Somalia. The most affected regions include Banadir (2,878 cases), Bay (1,900), and Lower Juba (1,399). Seventy-four percent (74%) of the total cases were children under five years.

South Africa: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) reported 15 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of measles from three provinces. Cumulatively, 843 confirmed cases and no deaths have been reported from all the nine provinces this year.

South Sudan: Since the last report (1 September 2023), 308 new suspected cases and five new deaths (CFR: 0.01%) of measles have been from South Sudan. Cumulatively, 6,030 cases (424 confirmed; 5,606 suspected) and 145 deaths (CFR: 2.4%) of measles were reported from multiple counties across all 10 states and three administrative areas of South Sudan. Of the total cases, 66% are children under five years.

Uganda: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 21 new cases (3 confirmed; 18 suspected) and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 290 cases (24 confirmed; 266 suspected) and one death (CFR: 0.3%) have been reported from one of 146 districts in Uganda. This is the second outbreak of measles reported in Kiryandongo district this year.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH in these MS continue to strengthen measles surveillance and case management in all the affected areas.

Lassa fever in Africa

1,115 confirmed case(s)
7,737 suspected case(s)
191 human deaths (**CFR: 17.1%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Lassa virus	First Reported	27-Jan-2023	Previous Report Update	6-Oct-2023
First Occurred	2-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	2 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	MODERATE	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 8,852 cases (1,115 confirmed; 7,737 suspected) and 191 deaths (CFR: 17.1%) of Lassa fever were reported from five AU MS: Ghana (27 cases; 1 death), Guinea (3; 2), Liberia (396; 5), Nigeria (8,420; 181) and Sierra Leone (6; 2).

This week, 181 new cases and no new deaths were reported from Liberia and Nigeria.

Liberia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) reported 98 new cases (2 confirmed; 96 suspected) and no new deaths of Lassa fever from Bong county in Liberia. Cumulatively, 396 cases (5 confirmed, 391 suspected) and five deaths (CFR: 1.3%) of Lassa fever were reported from eight of the 15 counties of Liberia. This outbreak is active in three of the 15 counties in the country.

Nigeria : Since the last update (31 August 2023), the NCDC reported 83 new cases (4 confirmed; 79 suspected) and no new deaths of Lassa fever from 10 states and Federal Capital Territory (FCT) in Nigeria. Cumulatively, 8,420 cases (1,068 confirmed; 7,352 suspected) and 181 deaths (CFR: 17%) of Lassa fever were reported from 28 of the 31 states of Nigeria.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Liberia: The NPHIL with support from partners, provided technical and logistic support to the county health teams. The NPHIL continues to strengthen surveillance, vector control, risk communication and community engagement activities in the affected communities and districts.

Nigeria: The national Lassa fever multi-partner, multisectoral Technical Working Group (TWG) continues to coordinate the response activities at all levels. Additionally, the Federal Ministry of Environment continues to implement the Lassa fever environmental response campaign in high-burden states.

Dengue fever in Africa

1,115 confirmed case(s),
7,737 suspected case(s)
191 human deaths (**CFR: 17.1%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Dengue virus	First Reported	26-Jul-2023	Previous Report Update	29-Sep-2023
First Occurred	1-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	12 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since January 2023, a total of 64,443 cases (10,367 confirmed; 54,076 suspected) and 158 deaths (CFR: 0.2%) of dengue fever have been reported in 12 MS: Angola (3 cases; no death(s)), Burkina Faso (48,885; 133), Chad (960; 1), Côte d'Ivoire (107; 0), Egypt (578; 0), Ethiopia (10,180; 4), Guinea (6; 1), Mali (518; 1), Mauritius (263; 0), Sao Tome and Principe (1,227; 11), Senegal (52; 0) and Sudan (1,664; 7).

This week, 8,771 new cases and one new death from dengue fever were reported from four AU Member States: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali and Mauritius.

Burkina Faso: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 8,601* new cases (3,990 confirmed; 4,611 suspected) and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 48,885 cases (7,142 confirmed; 41,743 suspected) and 133 deaths (CFR: 0.3%) of dengue fever have been reported from seven of all 63 districts.

Ethiopia: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the EPHI reported 15 new suspected cases and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 10,180 cases (127 confirmed; 10,053 suspected) and four deaths (CFR: 0.03%) have been reported from four of the 11 regions in Ethiopia. Majority (88%) of the cases were reported from Afar region.

Mali: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 169 new cases (31 confirmed; 138 suspected) and one new death (CRF: 0.6%) of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 518 cases (62 confirmed; 456 suspected) and one death (CFR: 0.2%) of dengue fever have been reported from ten of 75 districts in Mali.

Mauritius: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed imported case and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 263 confirmed cases (251 local; 12 imported) and no deaths have been reported from the two islands: Mauritius and Rodrigues.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH of affected Member States continue to conduct enhanced surveillance, case management and risk communication activities.

Chikungunya in Africa

353 confirmed case(s)

242 suspected case(s)

0 human deaths (**CFR: 0%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Chikungunya virus	First Reported	23-Jun-2023	Previous Report Update	29-Sep-2023
First Occurred	14-Jul-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	3 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year 595 cases (353 confirmed; 242 suspected) and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported from three AU MS: Burkina (367; 0), Mali (8; 0) and Senegal (220; 0).

This week, 54 new cases and no new deaths of chikungunya were reported from three AU MS: Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal.

Burkina Faso: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 40 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of chikungunya virus from three regions. Cumulatively, 367 cases (132 confirmed; 235 suspected) and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported in three of eight regions in Burkina Faso.

Mali: Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported four new suspected cases and no new deaths of chikungunya virus from two regions. Cumulatively, 8 cases (1 confirmed; 7 suspected) and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported in two of the eight regions in Mali: Bamako (1 confirmed; 4 suspected) and Kayes (0; 3).

Senegal: Since the last update (26 September 2023), the MoH reported ten new confirmed cases and no new deaths of chikungunya from Tambacounda region. Cumulatively, 220 confirmed and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported from 15 of 79 districts in Senegal. The most affected age groups are 15 - 35 years old (47%) and 5 - 14 years old (27%).

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH of the affected Member States continue to conduct enhanced surveillance, case management and risk communication activities, and implement vector control measures in the affected regions.

Footnotes:

* Cases in this report include confirmed, probable and suspected cases

* 8,601* new cases of dengue is due to batch reporting from Burkina Faso

* Case fatality rates are calculated using confirmed cases and deaths only, except for the following:
- Bacterial meningitis, cholera and measles where CFR is calculated using all cases and deaths

* The GeoScope level is determined by where the event is currently occurring on the continent. Low: event is limited to sub-national areas within one MS; Moderate: Event is affecting multiple countries within an AU region, or have been imported from/exported to 1-2 countries from another global region; High: Event is affecting several multinational AU regions, or have been imported from/exported to >2 countries from another global region; Very High: Event is considered a pandemic, affecting multiple continents or worldwide. The risk level is determined by evaluating the following criteria: morbidity and mortality of the disease, probability to spread within and to the other MSs, and availability of effective treatments, vaccines, or other control measures. An event risk level can be classified as low, moderate, high and very high depending on how they score on the above criteria.